

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims, in view of the remarks and amendments herein, is respectfully requested. Claims 28-38 are canceled, claims 41-43 are added, and claims 1-2, 16, 21-22, 25-26, and 39-40 are amended. Claims 1-27 and 39-43 are pending. The amendments to the claims are intended to further prosecution and are not intended to concede to the correctness of the Examiner's position or to prejudice the prosecution of the claims prior to amendment, which claims are present in a continuation application of the present application.

Amended claims 1, 2, 16, and 39-40 are supported by originally-filed claims 1, 2 and 16, and at page 3, lines 17-18 of the specification.

New claim 41 is supported by originally-filed claim 15.

New claims 42-43 are supported by originally-filed claims 1-2 and at page 3, lines 17-18 of the specification.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-27 and 39-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The amendments to claims 1-2, 16 and 39-40 moot the § 112(2) rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612-373-6959) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account
No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date September 18, 2003

By Janet E. Embretson
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Reg. No. 39,665

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 18 day of September.

Candis B. Buending

Name

Signature

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